

I am opposed to retaining CW testing for any Amateur Radio license class. CW testing has been responsible for suppressing growth in our hobby since the beginning. Testing for CW proficiency is pointless. You cannot operate with that mode unless you ARE proficient - it is a "self-testing" mode for all intents and purposes. Those who argue that CW testing helps keep the "riff-raff" out certainly haven't listened to the Extra phone bands lately. Learning CW requires a particular brain structure that is suited to memorizing rhythms - some of us have it and some of us do not. It is not a universal human strength. Many people are "rhythm impaired", like myself, and it is a considerable struggle to even get to 5wpm. CW licensing requirements are akin to unfair and pointless discrimination against those without the ability to memorize rhythm. Dave Colter WA1ZCN (General Class licensee)